Message Text

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ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 /022 W $\,$

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R 161933Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6367

INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, AR

SUBJECT: MEAT INSPECTION

REF: STATE 145676, FASTO 74

PASS USDA/APHIS FRO STEINMETZ

1. UNCLASSIFIED. OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE RECEIVED LETTER FROM DR. FEDERICO E. GONZALEZ GREY, DIRECTOR OF ANIMAL HEALTH SECRETARIAT OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK DATED JULY 15, 1976, INDICATING THAT ACCORDING TO THEIR INVESTIGATIONS, SANITARY CERTIFICATE NO 0005122 WAS ISSUED ON FEBRUARY 17, 1976, FOR A SHIPMENT OF FROZEN BEEF TO ISRAEL. HE GOES ON TO SAY THAT IF THE ABOVE NUMBER CAN BE CONFIRMED IT WAS NOT A LEGAL EXPORTATION AND THAT THE FIRM VIZENTAL SHOULD NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE. GONZALEZ GREY REQUESTS ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE ON THIS MATTER SO THAT HE CAN PROCEED WITH HIS INVESTIGATIONS. HE CLOSES BY SAYING THAT YOU SHOULD PROCEED WITH THE LEGAL DISPOSAL OF THE PRODUCT CONCERNED. COPY OF LETTER BEING FORWARDED TO APHIS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN LOU. MANY FUNNY THINGS WENT ON AT PORTS DURING PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT AND THIS SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND IN PURSUING THIS MATTER. THERE WERE REPORTS OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF ILLEGAL OR UNREGISTERED EXPORTS AND THIS COULD BE A CASE IN POINT ALTHOUGH IT WOULD STILL BE USEFUL TO KNOW WHO ALBERTO SANTIAGO DE ZAVELETA IS OR WAS AND HOW GOA CERTIFICATES WERE OBTAINED. SUGGEST THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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USDA/APHIS FOLLOW THROUGH BY PROVIDING COPIES OF CERTIFICATES

AND RAISING KEY QUESTIONS, BUT KEEPING WHOLE MATTER AT LOW LEVEL.
ANOTHER CONSIDERATION IN PURSUING THIS MATTER IS THE FREQUENCY
WITH WHICH NEW DIRECTORS OF ANIMAL HEALTH HAVE BEEN APPOINTED
DURING THE PAST SIX MONTHS. END LOU.
HILL

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: FOOD INSPECTION, MEATS

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